

# *March:* RICAPS Monthly Meeting

March 24, 2026  
Cooley Landing, East Palo Alto



# Agenda



Time	Item
12:30 - 1:00pm	Lunch
1:00 - 1:05pm	Welcome & Agenda Review
1:05 - 1:15pm	Warm-up Activity
1:15 - 1:20pm	History of Cooley Landing Park
1:20 - 1:35pm	Announcements
1:35 - 2:15pm	In Preparation for Prop 4: Climate Adaptation in San Mateo County
2:15 - 2:30pm	Break
2:30 - 3:10pm	Discussion, Continued: Diving Deeper on Climate Adaptation
3:10 - 3:20pm	Closing & Jurisdiction Round Robin
3:20 - 3:30pm	Group Picture!



# Warm-up Activity



# Common Ground Challenge

In groups of ~5 people, your goal is to find 5 things that everyone in your group has in common.

...

Guardrails:

- Cannot use obvious traits (e.g., “we are all human,” “we all work in the County,” “we are all in this room”).
- Try to find interesting or surprising connections.

You have 5 minutes to chat! Start with intros.

Have one person write down your 5 commonalities.

Identify someone to report out.





# History of Cooley Landing Park



# Announcements



# New staff at the Sustainability Department!



**Ori Paz**

Senior Sustainability Specialist  
RICAPS Climate Collaborative



**Gilee Corral**

Program Manager  
Climate Resilience



# CalEnviroScreen 5.0 comment letter



- The Sustainability Department is developing a letter to the state around the changes from CalEnviroScreen 4.0 to 5.0
- CalEnviroScreen is a mapping tool that identifies California communities disproportionately burdened by pollution
- San Mateo County has 5 fewer census tracts designated as DACs in 5.0 vs. 4.0
- **Is any other jurisdiction tracking this or preparing comments?**



# Peninsula Clean Energy



# Heat Pump Water Heater Contractor Training

**When:** Thursday, April 9 from 8:30 – 11:30 AM



**Where:** Pipe Trades Training Center at 780 Commercial Street, San Jose

**What:** Manufacturers Rheem & Bradford White will share information about products, sizing, installation, maintenance and support. Network with implementation professionals.

All contractors, building staff, and others interested are encouraged to attend.

Refreshments will be served.

Register at

[SouthBayHPWH.eventbrite.com](https://SouthBayHPWH.eventbrite.com)



# Reach Code Adoptions!



- On March 16, the City of San Mateo adopted reach codes
- On March 17, the City of East Palo Alto adopted reach codes.
- Both Councils unanimously adopted 4 reach codes.
- No letters or comments of opposition.
- Both used AB 130 Exception #5 (General Plan and Climate Action Plan language).
- No BSC approvals yet. BSC is establishing their process and engaging in many conversations with jurisdictions.



# What Reach Codes Were Adopted?



## Existing Buildings

*Single Family, Townhomes, Duplex*

*Nonresidential*

*Single Family, Townhomes, Duplex*

**Two-Way AC**

**FlexPath**

**Electric Readiness**



### **Keys to success:**

- Focus on elective intervention points when work is already being complete.
- Thoughtful exceptions.
- Eye towards future proofing and preparing residents.

### **Coming Soon: Cost Effectiveness Studies**

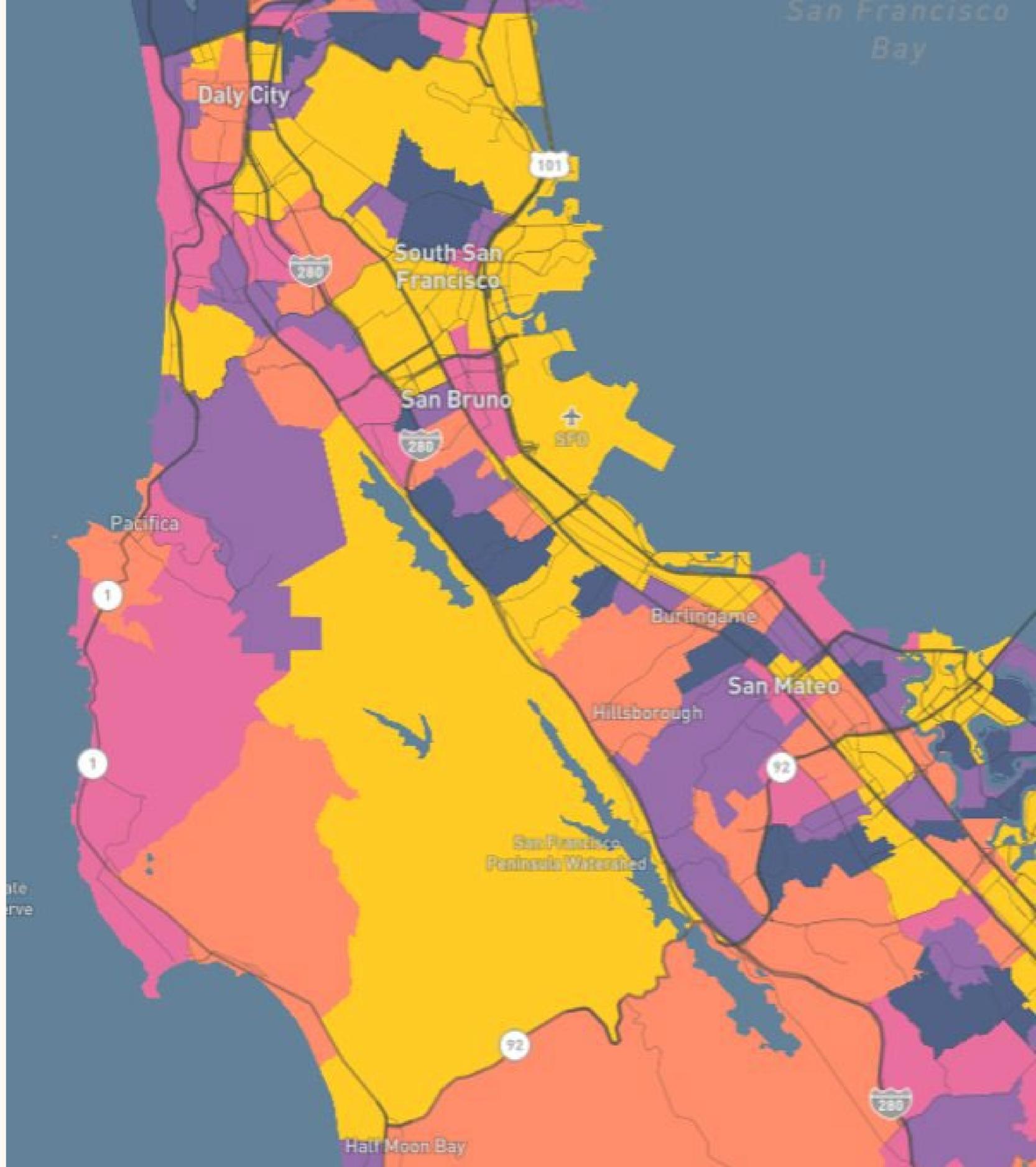
- **New Construction** – Single Family (Published)
- **New Construction** – Multifamily (3/31/2026)
- **New Construction** – Nonresidential (4/15/2026)
- **Existing Buildings** – Multifamily (4/15/2026)

# Replica Inventory Interest Reminder



On March 15<sup>th</sup> Rincon reached out to jurisdictions about interest in Replica for this year's GHG inventory

Rincon will be sending out a reminder tomorrow for those who have not responded



# Implementation Working Group Updates



## Mode Shift Group

- Topics discussed in December in-person convening
- "Systems Mapping" to support the Grand Boulevard Initiative

## Electric Vehicle Group

- Deliberate sharing of EV Resource Hub
- Potential new ideas: EV fleet maintenance training series, knowledge sharing for fleet managers, San Mateo/ Santa Clara EV showcase

## Building Electrification and Electric Vehicle Marketing Groups

- Multifamily engagement event rescheduled to 5/19



If you would like to invite any MF property owners, please send contacts to [adighe@smcgov.org](mailto:adighe@smcgov.org)

San Mateo County Sustainability Department  
City of San Mateo • City of Menlo Park  
City of Burlingame • City of San Carlos  
City of Millbrae • Town of Hillsborough

**SAN MATEO COUNTY  
REGIONALLY INTEGRATED  
CLIMATE ACTION PLANNING  
SUPPORT**

### Future-Proof Your Multifamily Property

- Understand and prepare for new Bay Area regulations that phase out gas water heaters
- Learn how property owners are lowering operating costs and reducing maintenance
- Capture available rebates and incentives before they expire
- Identify upgrades that make financial and operational sense for your properties
- Evaluate cost-effective strategies for adding EV charging as tenant demand grows
- Connect directly with rebate administrators, contractors, and peer building owners

**Tuesday, May 19, 2026**  
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Programming  
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Networking

801 Jefferson Ave Suite 100, Redwood City @ CZI  
**REDWOOD CITY**

Free lunch will be provided to those who register in advance

Register now at : [LINK HERE](#)

   [QR CODE](#)

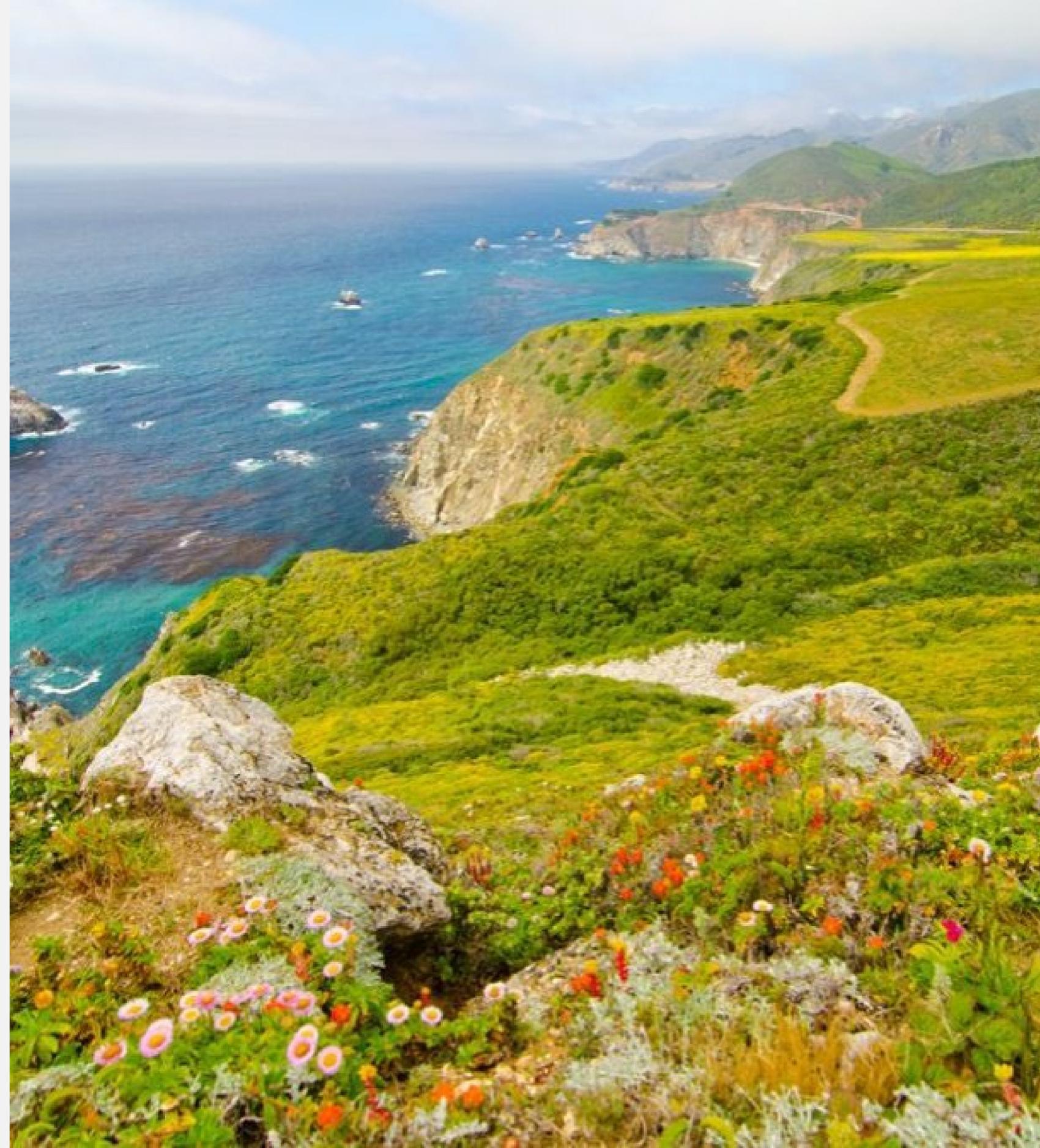


# In Preparation for Prop 4:

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Climate Adaptation in San  
Mateo County

Rincon Consultants, Inc.



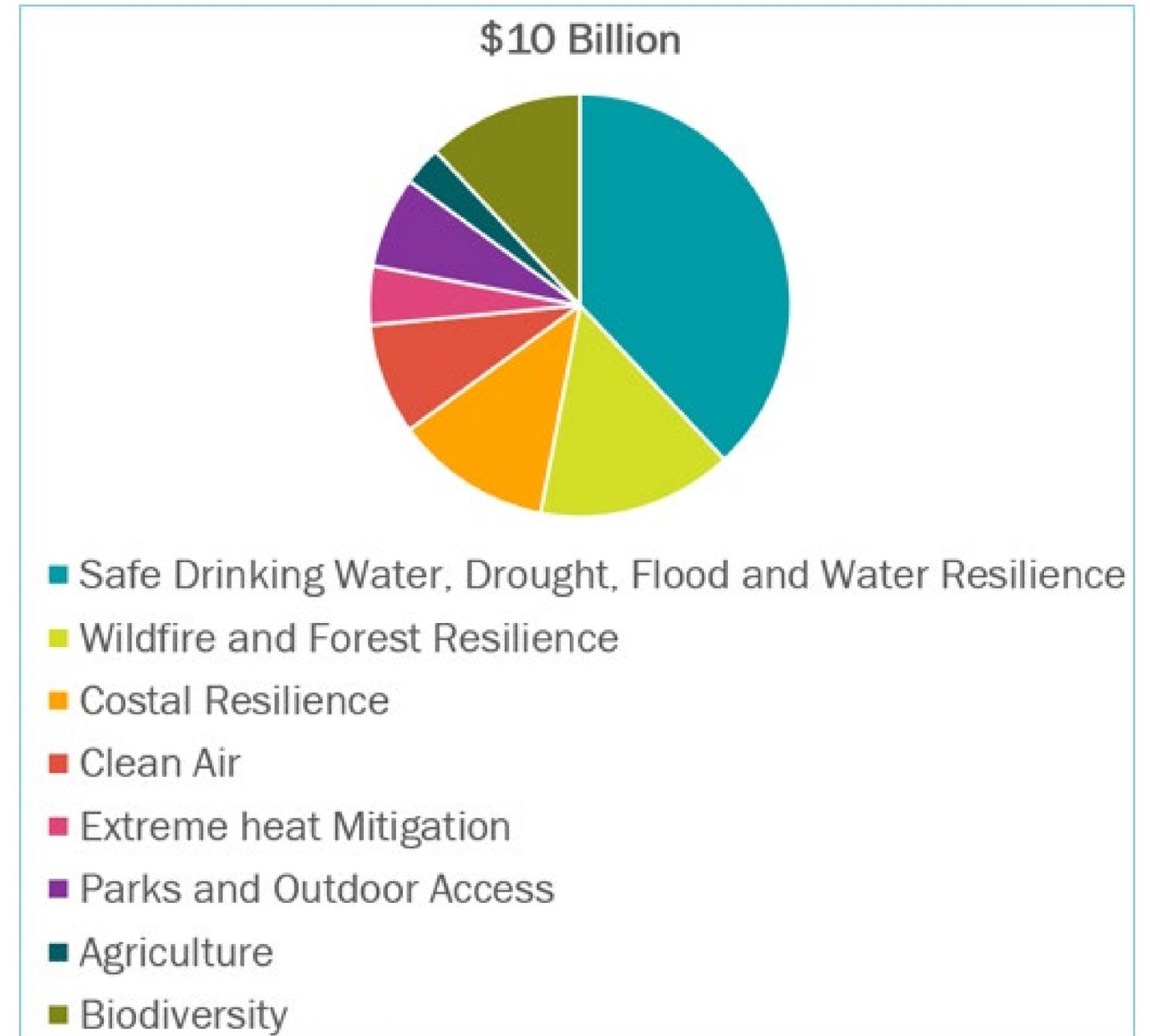
## Proposition 4 Refresher

- \$10 billion bond for climate resilience initiatives
- Approved by California voters in November 2024
- Statewide coalition of around 180 organizations.

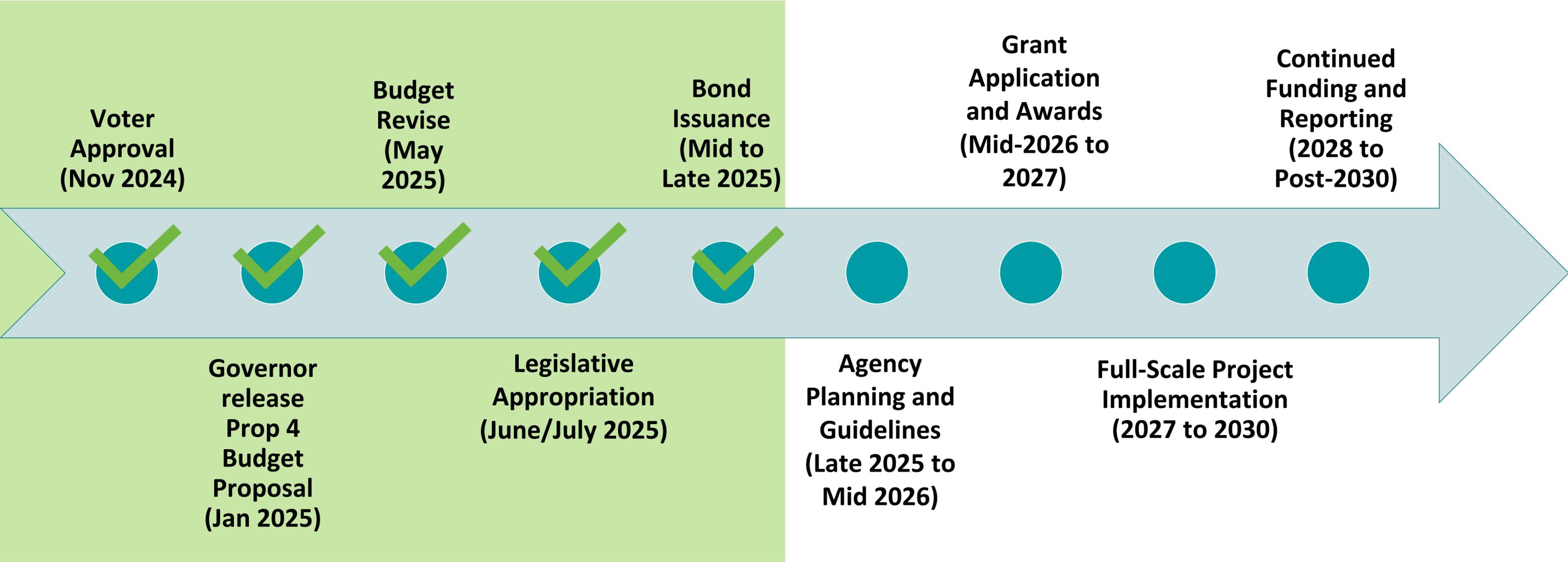
## Project Prioritization

- Dedicated funding for tribes, farmworker groups and vulnerable communities
- 40% designated for disadvantaged communities
- Focus on multi-benefit projects

## Adaptation Funding Categories



# Estimated Prop 4 Funding Availability



# \$3.3 Billion is Now Authorized to Rollout



~ \$1.2 Billion for Water Quality, Drinking Water, Flood Protection, Drought and Water Resilience



~ \$390 Million for Biodiversity and Nature-Based Solutions



~ \$415 Million for Wildfire Protection and Forest Resilience + \$181 Million in Early Action



~ \$ 153 Million for Climate Smart Agriculture



~ \$279 Million for Coastal Protection and Resilience



~ \$466 Million for Park Creation and Outdoor Access



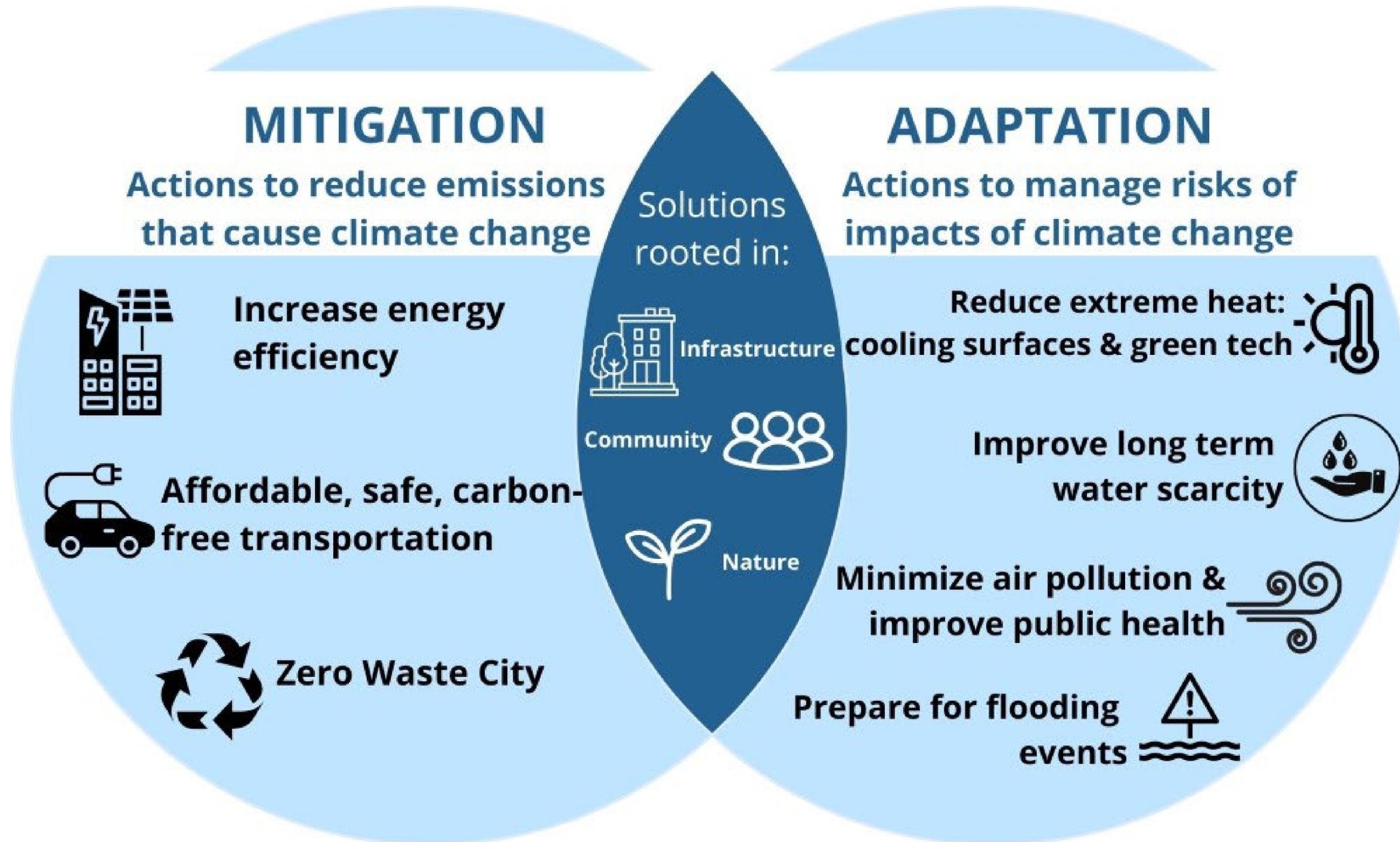
~ \$ 110 Million for Extreme Heat Mitigation



~ \$275 Million for Clean Air and Energy



# Mitigation versus Adaptation



# State Trends: Mitigation versus Adaptation Funding Dollars

## Mitigation

- Funds largely coming from Cap-and-Invest using the GHG Reduction Fund
- Recent budget deficits have forced the state to shift GGRF funds away from new mitigation projects towards core services
- Current grants are oversaturated

## Adaptation

- Rapidly Growing. Prop 4 is infusing \$10 Billion for resilience projects over the next few years...

**... How can we frame our traditional mitigation projects as resilient adaptation projects to take advantage of Prop 4 funds?**



# County of San Mateo Regional Adaptation Plans



**2021 Multijurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan**  
Volume 1—Planning-Area-Wide Elements

October | 2021

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO  
**SEA LEVEL RISE VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT**

San Mateo County Forest Health & Fire Resilience PWP



San Mateo County Forest Health and Fire Resilience  
Public Works Plan (PWP)

**OneShoreline**  
Building Solutions for a Changing Climate

**Planning Policy Guidance**  
To Protect and Enhance  
Bay Shoreline Areas of San Mateo County

June 2023



**Sea Level Rise & Overtopping Analysis for San Mateo County's Bayshore**

Developed using BCDC's Adapting to Rising Tides Methodology  
Final Report • May 2016

# County of San Mateo Regional Adaptation Organizations and Campaigns



# County of San Mateo Key Climate Hazards

The main hazards and data to follow (from the 2021 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan) are:



Sea Level Rise



Landslides



Wildfire



Extreme Heat



Flooding

# Sea Level Rise

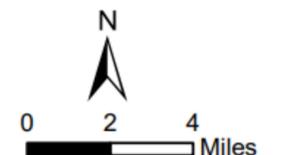
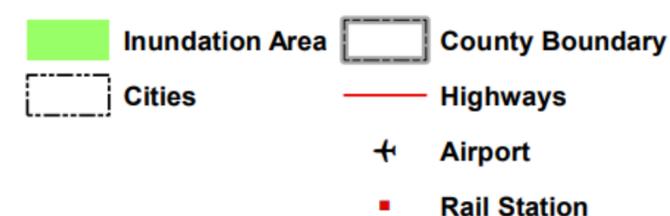
## Introduction

- In the last century, San Francisco Bay water levels have risen 8 inches
- The sea-level rise projections for 2100 are estimated to be 0.98 to 1.35 inches per year over the next 80 years
- SLR severity will show in daily tidal inundation, King Tides, storm surge, El Niño winter storms, and storm waves
- \$17.7 B evaluated damage and ~150k population exposed



Figure 13-1. Sea Level Rise for San Mateo County

Inundation areas are a combination of Our Coast Our Future 200cm (6.6 feet) of SLR with 100-year storm for the Pacific Ocean coastline, and Adapting to Rising Tides 108 inches (9 feet) of SLR for the San Francisco Bay coastline.



Data Sources: San Mateo Co., ART, OCOF



# Sea Level Rise

## Key Issues/**Opportunities**

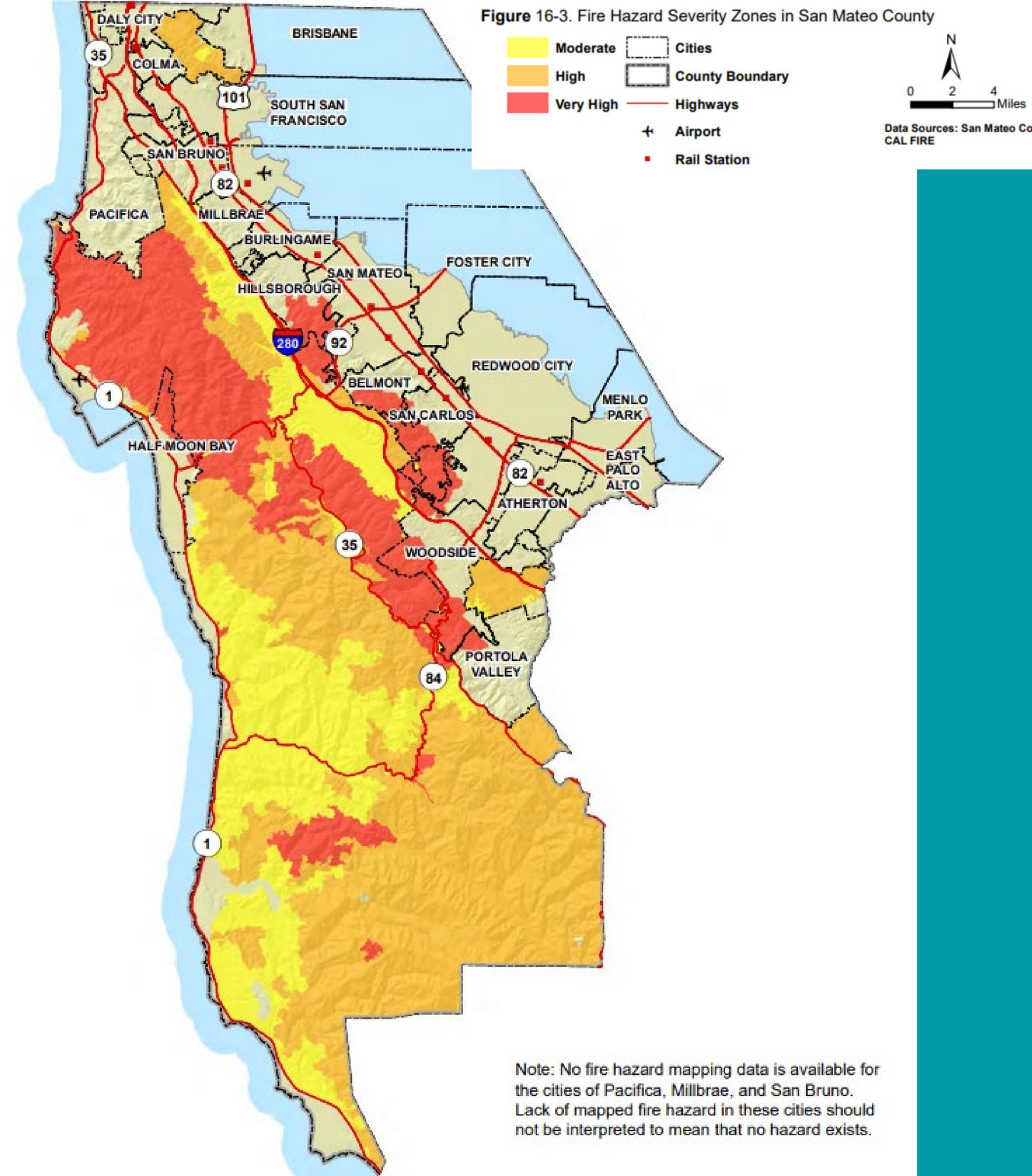
- Mitigation costs may be substantial and could exceed County resources.
- Clear risk communication will be essential.
- Environmental risks include loss of biodiversity and critical habitats.
- Social risks include loss of natural flood protection and recreation areas.
- **Green infrastructure** to absorb storm surge, increase carbon sequestration, and biodiversity.



# Wildfire

## Introduction

- Occurs as a result of weather, fuels, and terrain
- State vs Local Responsibility Areas
- Notable fires: November 1929 fire near Montara, and the August 2020 CZU Lightning Complex in San Mateo and Santa Cruz Counties
- Secondary impacts
  - Economic impacts, contamination of reservoirs, erosion, landslides, runoff
- \$8.3B valuation of property and 43k population in VHFHSZ



# Wildfire

## Key Issues/**Opportunities**

- Provide education and outreach on defensible space, evacuation routes, and safe zones for residents in or near fire hazard areas.
- Wildfires can trigger secondary hazards
- Manage future growth in wildland–urban interface (WUI) areas; fire districts should continue training for fires in WUI.
- Expand vegetation management areas and resources.
- **Prescribed burns** and **biomass thinning** promote long term carbon storage in forests
- Partnerships with rural and tribal communities



# Flooding

## Introduction

- Types of floods in the region: riverine, coastal stormwater runoff, flash floods
- FEMA Regulatory Flood Zones
  - Regulatory floodways and floodplain boundaries (1% and 0.2% annual chance floodplain boundaries).
- floodplain is the area adjacent to a river, creek lake or the ocean that becomes inundated during a flood (e.g. wetland, riparian areas, sensitive areas)
- Secondary impacts: erosion, landslides, hazardous materials spills
- 35 significant flooding events since 1996
- \$2.8B damage and 85k population in 0.2% annual chance floodplain boundaries



# Flooding

## Key Issues/**Opportunities**

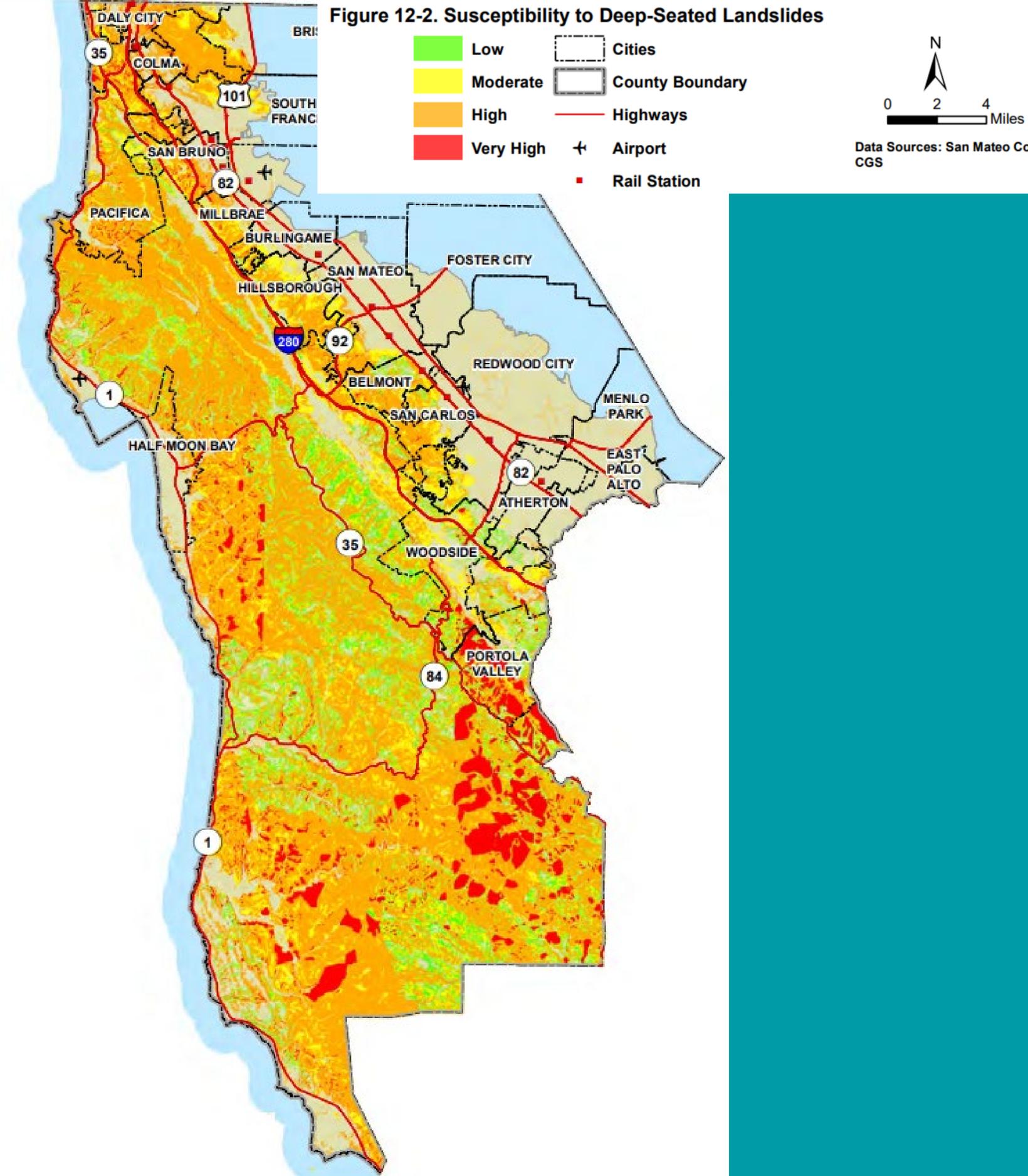
- FEMA flood maps may underestimate true flood risk, especially in areas with non-accredited levees.
- Over 60% of residents in the 1% annual chance floodplain have high social vulnerability; communities need ongoing outreach on preparedness and available resources (insurance).
- Long-term flood mitigation will require multi-source funding. Jurisdictions must coordinate closely on flood hazard mitigation.
- Preserve flood-compatible uses (agriculture, open space) despite development pressure.
- Flood risk overlaps with earthquakes, landslides, and coastal erosion—creating opportunities for multi-benefit mitigation.
- **Riparian habitat restoration** projects increase biodiversity and flood prevention
- **Stormwater capture**/reuse projects integrated with complete streets.



# Landslide

## Introduction

- Can be initiated by storms, earthquakes, fires, volcanic eruptions or human modification of the land
- Secondary hazards: flooding
- 10 federal disaster declarations related to landslides in the County between 1981 and 2017
- The southwestern portion of the County has experienced repeated damage from debris flows
- \$35B valuation of infrastructure and 213k population in High & Very High Landslide Susceptibility Zone



# Landslide

## Key Issues/**Opportunities**

- Over half of residents in high or very high landslide susceptibility areas also face high social vulnerability.
- Climate change impacts on landslide frequency and severity remain uncertain and could increase risk.
- Existing homes in landslide-prone areas vary in vulnerability depending on construction standards. Future development could place more housing in landslide-risk zones. Landslide hazard disclosure is required during property transactions but depends on available maps and seller/agent knowledge.
- Landslides can cause environmental impacts such as degraded water quality.
- Landslide risk overlaps with hazards like earthquakes, floods, and wildfires—creating opportunities for multi-benefit mitigation.
- Increasing wildfires raise the likelihood of post-fire debris flows.
- Coastal bluff erosion is influenced by wave height and direction; El Niño events accelerate retreat, threatening roads and homes.
- **Native planting/ restoration, bank stabilization, and water way restoration** are ways to protect coastal areas
- **Vegetation management** to prevent wildfire (which leads to landslides)



# Extreme Heat

## Introduction

- One of the deadliest weather hazards in the nation
  - Older adults, children, and sick or overweight individuals are at greater risk
- Can be worsened due to urban heat island effect and overheating of HVAC systems
- Secondary hazards: drought, wildfire, water supplies, brownouts, power loss, degraded transportation infrastructure

## Extreme Heat Terminology

- **Extreme Heat:** A period of high heat and humidity with temperatures above 90 °F for at least two to three days.
- **High-Heat Days:** Days when temperatures exceed 100 °F.
- **Heat Wave:** Five consecutive days when temperatures exceed 100 °F.
- **Cooling Degree Days:** Every degree that the mean daily temperature is above 65 °F. This value is an indicator of how much energy must be expended to keep facilities at a comfortable temperature
- **Urban Heat Island:** Areas that typically lack vegetation (e.g., trees) and have dark, paved surfaces (e.g., parking lots) that absorb more heat and retain it for longer than adjacent, greener areas.



# Extreme Heat

Table 14-5. High-Heat Days per Year in San Mateo County

	High-Heat Days per Year		
	1995	2030	2070
Atherton	2	3	6
Belmont	1	2	4
Brisbane	1	1	1
Burlingame	1	1	1
Colma	1	1	1
Daly City	1	1	1
East Palo Alto	2	3	6
Foster City	2	3	6
Half Moon Bay	1	2	3
Hillsborough	1	1	2
Menlo Park	2	3	6
Millbrae	1	1	1
North Fair Oaks*	2	3	6
Pacifica	1	1	1
Pescadero*	2	3	5
Portola Valley	1	2	4
Princeton	1	2	3
Redwood City	2	3	6
San Bruno	1	1	1
San Carlos	2	3	5
San Mateo City	1	2	4
South San Francisco	1	1	1
Woodside	2	3	5
Unincorporated County	1	2	3
<b>Average</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>

\*Unincorporated San Mateo County

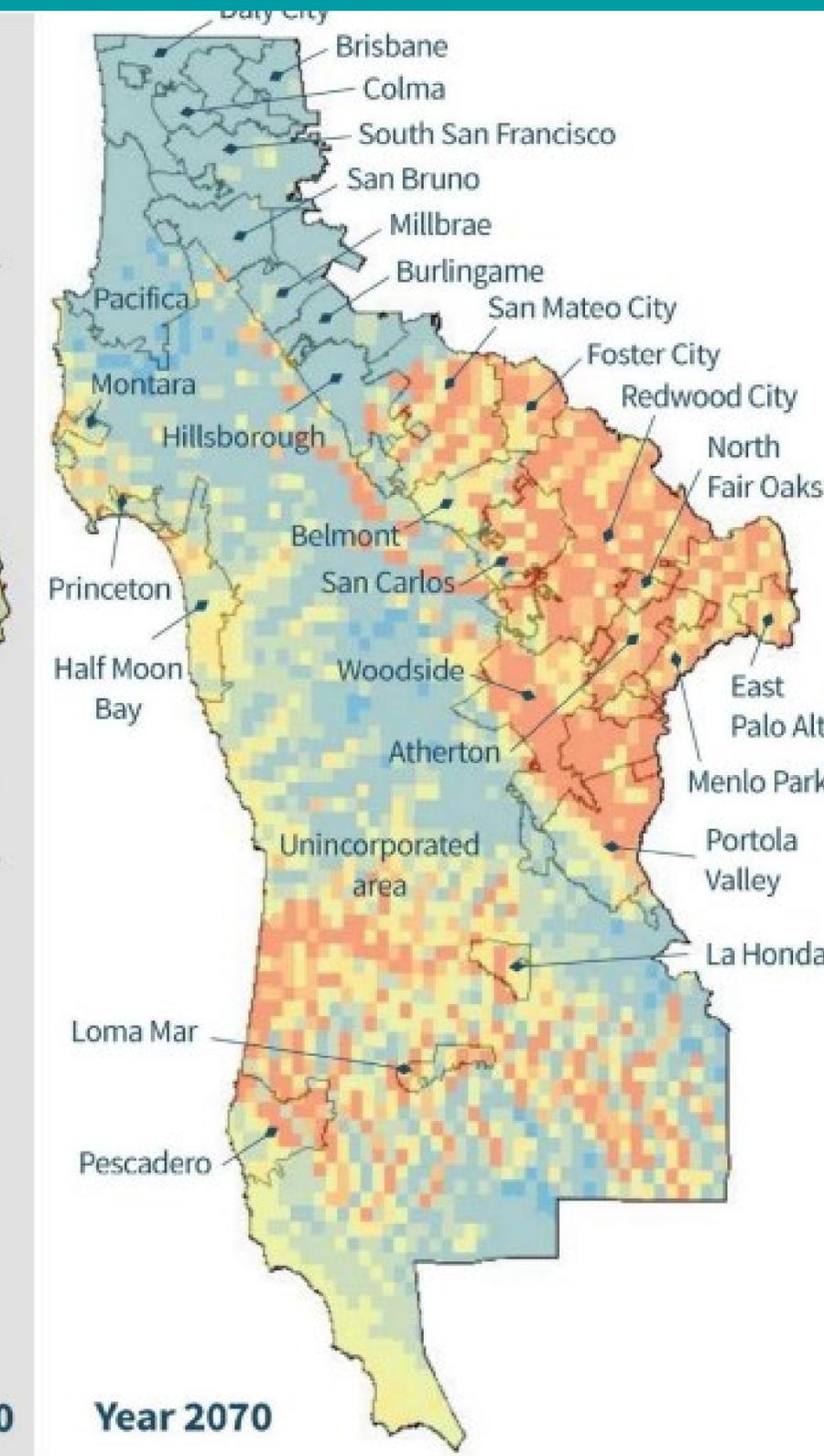
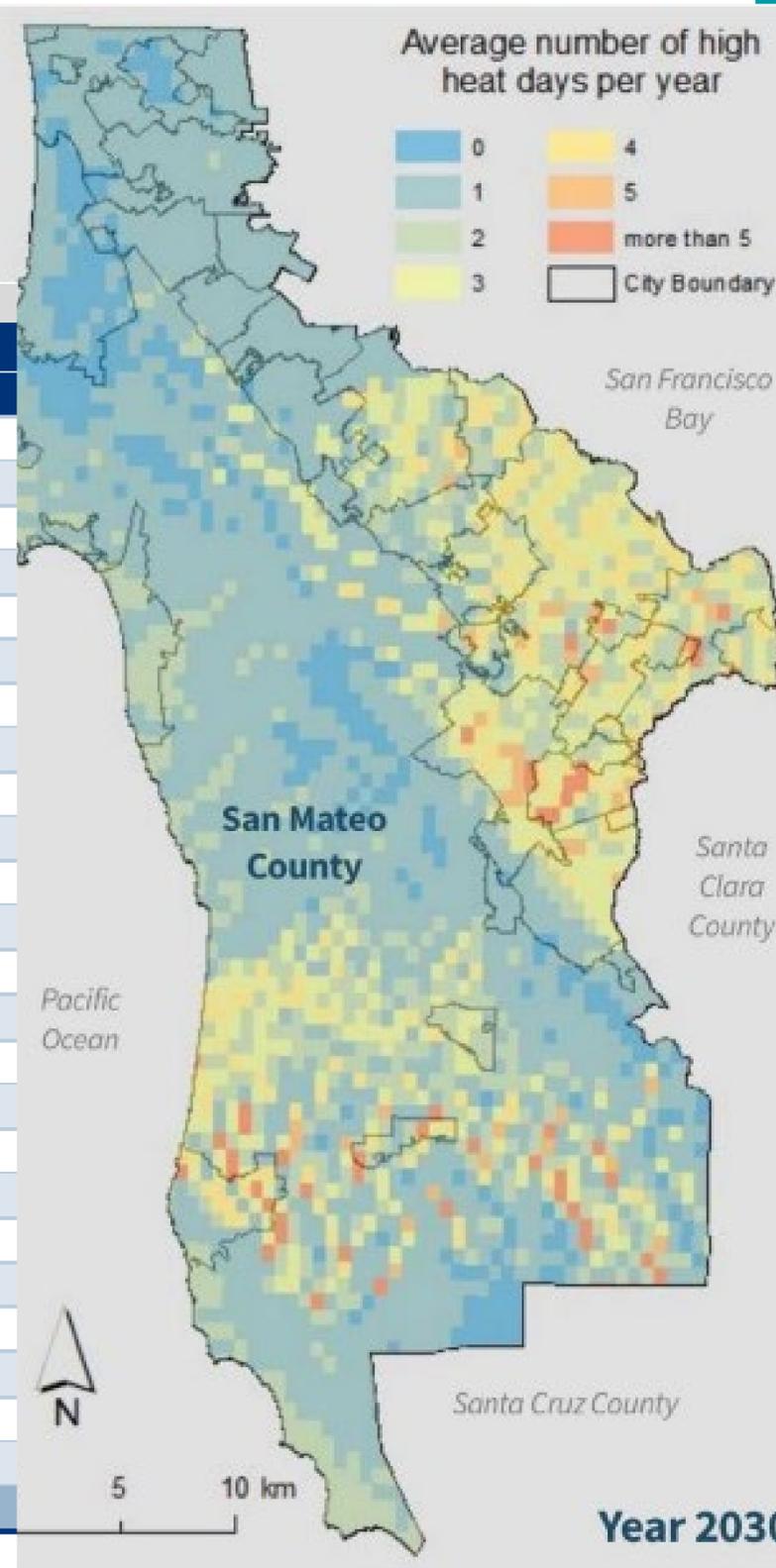


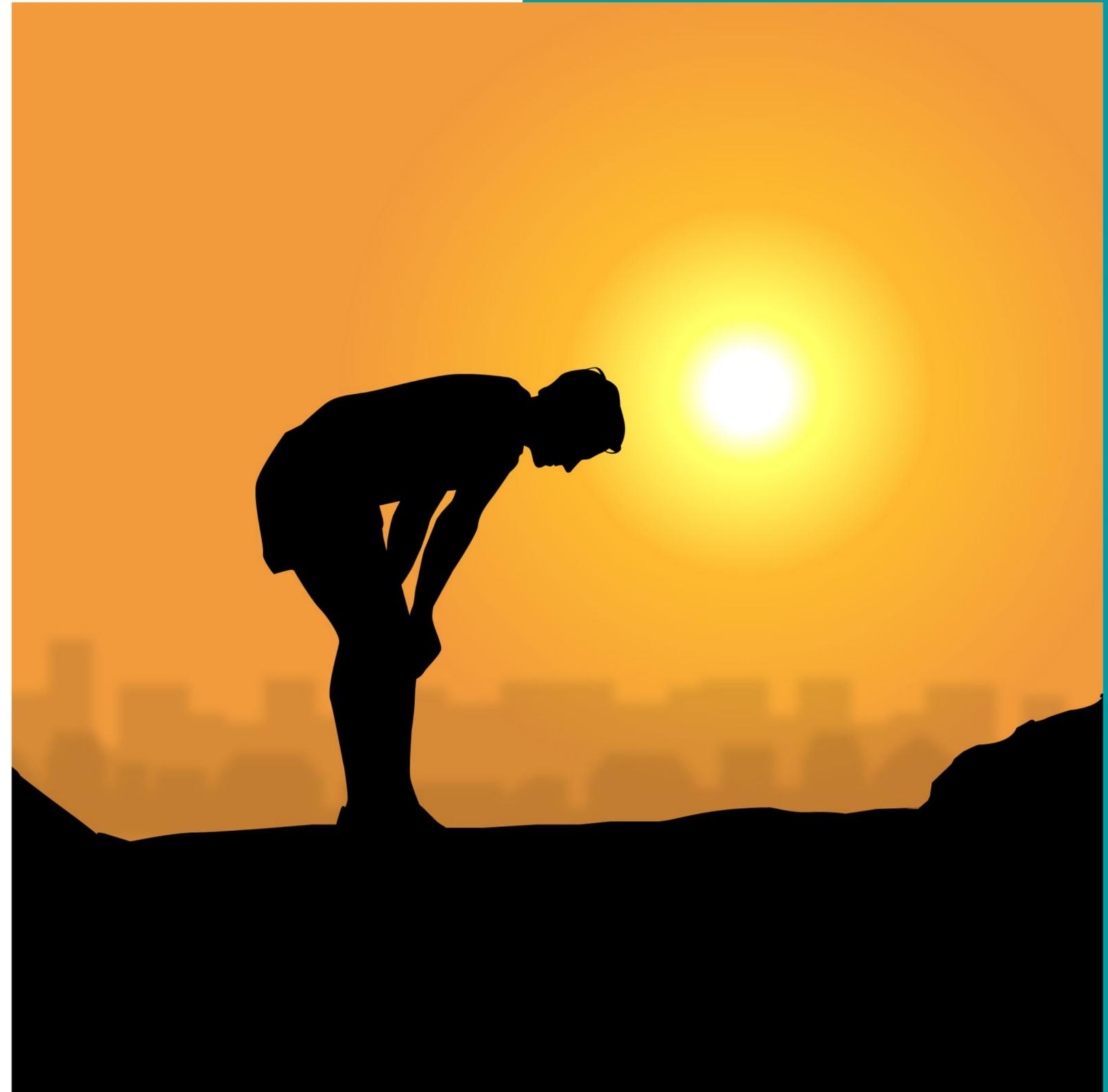
Figure 14-5. Extreme Heat Projections for San Mateo County



# Extreme Heat

## Key Issues/**Opportunities**

- Public education on dealing with the impacts of severe weather needs to continue to be provided so that community members can be better informed and prepared for severe weather events
- Redundancy of power supply throughout the planning area must be evaluated to better understand what areas may be vulnerable
- Extreme heat affects community members' safety and increases community costs and energy generation as it continues
- **Urban greening** reduces the urban heat island effect and increases active transportation
- **Resilience centers** offer places where vulnerable communities can go to escape extreme heat

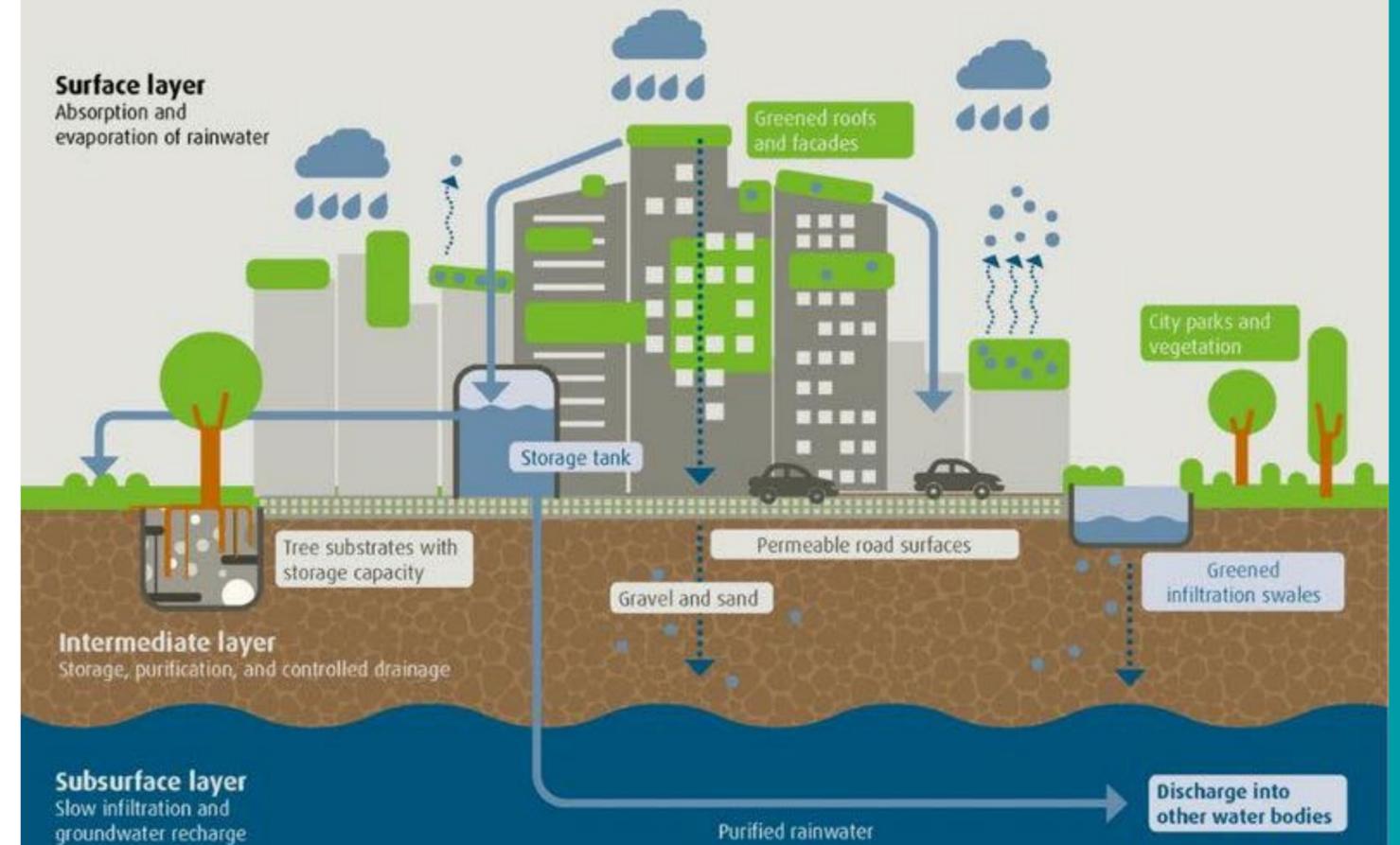


# Multi-Benefit Project Examples

## The Sponge City

- Address both Flooding and Drought
- Adding water storage and green space
- Bio-retention with trees and other vegetation
- Combines flooding abatement with groundwater recharge
- Sequestration and cooling benefits

The **sponge city** concept uses urban water retention as part of a **holistic resilience strategy**



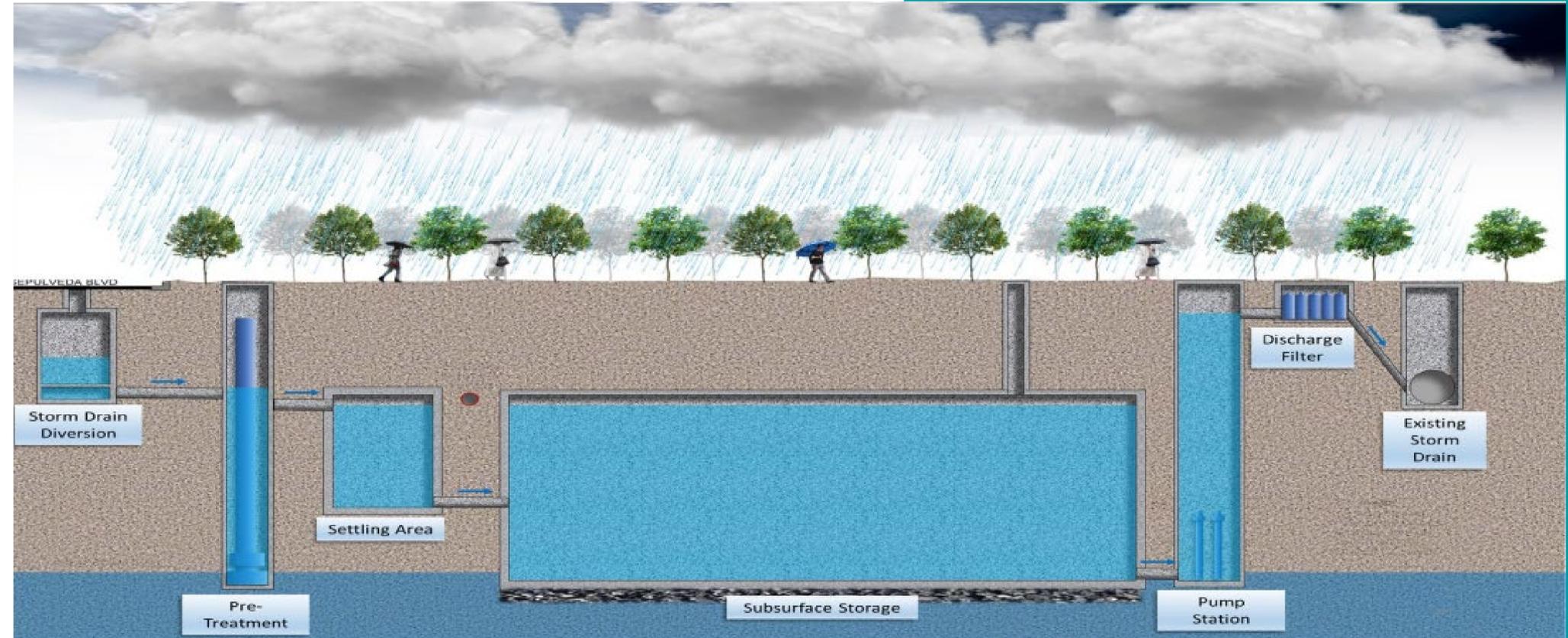
The sponge city is an example of an integrated nature-based solution that combines ecological, social, technical, and political perspectives of flood risk management. Unsealed surfaces, green roofs, infiltration basins, retention areas, and open watercourses are designed to mitigate heavy rainfall events, reduce heat islands, and promote groundwater recharge.



# Multi-Benefit Project Examples

## Culver Boulevard Realignment and Urban Runoff and Stormwater Project

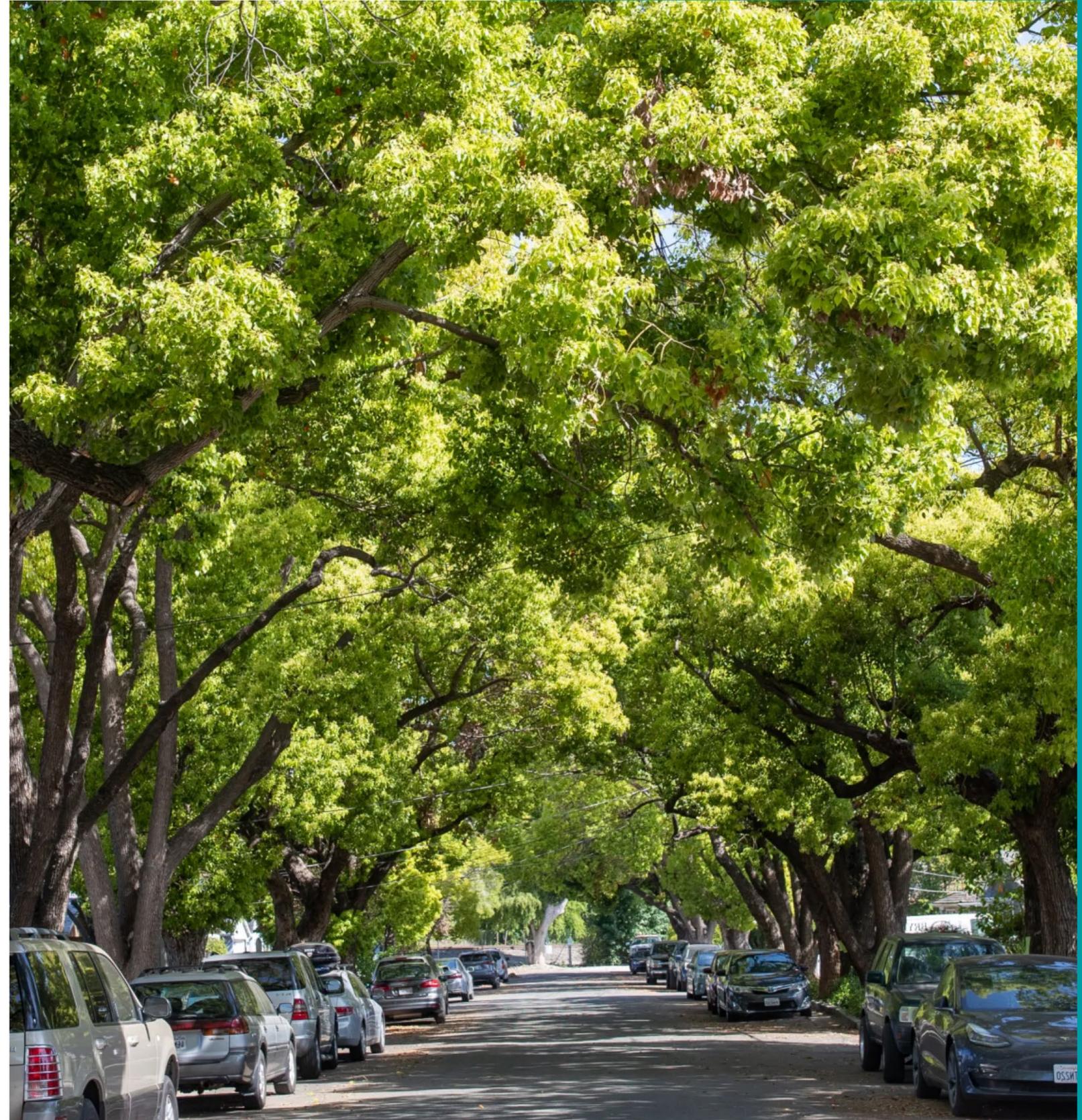
- Complete Streets with Stormwater Management
- Climate Hazards: flooding, landslides, extreme heat



# Multi-Benefit Project Examples

## Multi-benefit Classic!

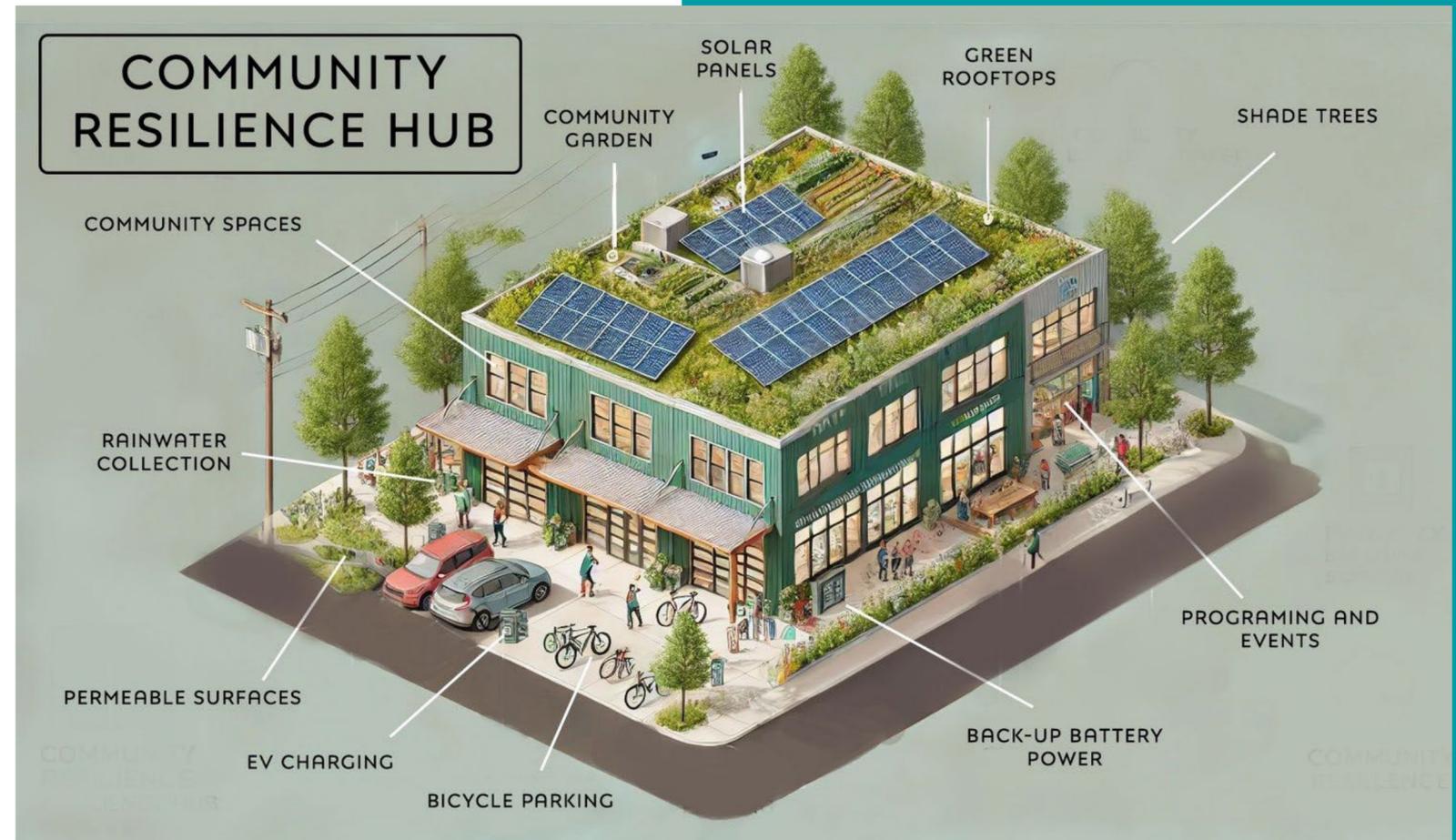
- Shade trees lower temperatures
- Sequester carbon
- Can combine with mobility projects
- Can add stormwater/flooding benefits



# Multi-Benefit Project Examples

Resilience Hubs / Mobility Hubs / Decarb

- Provide cooling/power during emergencies
- Mobility connections
  - Bike, ped, transit, EV, etc.
- Can add other benefits
  - Shade trees
  - Micro-grid
  - Stormwater



# Small Group Discussion

*You'll have 5 minutes for individual work – write your answers on post-its to place on the easel board. Write your jurisdiction/agency name at the top of the column.*



1. How does climate adaptation planning and implementation show up in your jurisdiction/agency? (e.g. incorporated into CAP, General Plan)
2. Does your jurisdiction attend any collectives or forums that share resources or data around adaptation?
3. Does your jurisdiction have a staff person/ team dedicated to adaptation planning and implementation? If so, who?
4. What climate impacts are most pressing in your jurisdiction/area of work?

*Discuss responses in your small group. Identify one person to share out 1-2 high level themes.*

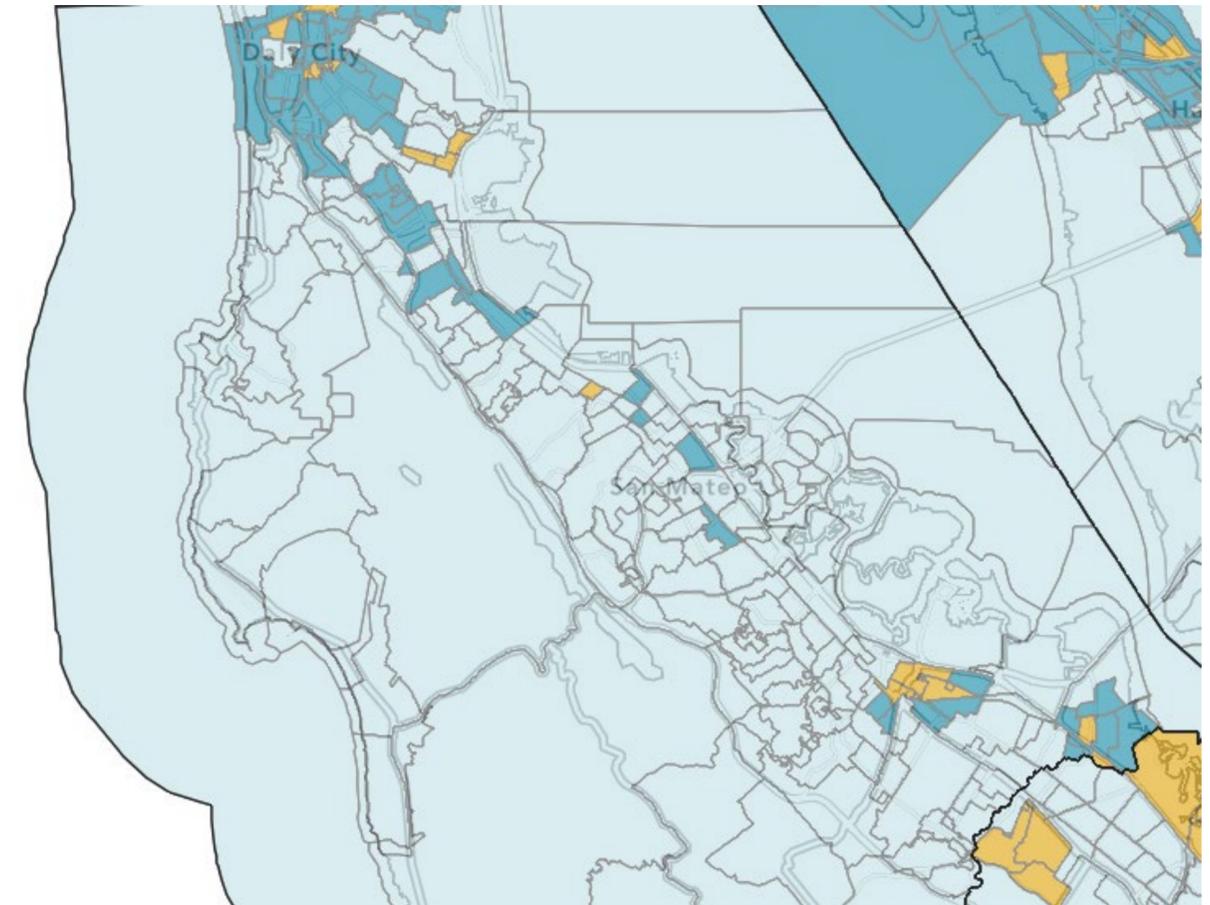


15 Minute Break!



# The Importance of Community Based Organizations

- Prop 4 Equity Implications
  - Dedicated funding for tribes, farmworker groups and vulnerable communities
    - 40% designated for disadvantaged (DAC) or vulnerable communities
    - 10% to severely disadvantaged communities (SDAC)
  - Allows for 25% Advanced Payment for timely project initiation (no max project cost)
  - Allows for reimbursement of indirect costs
  - No cost share/match requirements in the bond



**New definitions:**  
DAC & SDAC defined *relative*  
to the region / “area”;  
Vulnerable Populations  
defined by LCI’s Vulnerable  
Communities Platform



# The Importance of Community Based Organizations

- Prop 4 Key Priorities/ Preferences
  - Projects that leverage private, federal & local funding to produce greatest public benefit (multi-benefit projects)
  - Projects that utilize California Conservation Corps (90150)



# Recap Coastal Quest Webinar



- The goal of the webinar was to share capacity-building resources and tools with San Mateo County-based organizations to help resilience projects move forward and secure funding.
- Participants also broke out into smaller groups to discuss priority projects.
- Themes: Urban greening, extreme heat, impacts on frontline communities (health, infrastructure)
- **1:1 coaching sessions from Coastal Quest are available**
  - 15 minutes sessions to discuss projects, pitches, or questions about funding opportunities
  - Link will be shared in follow-up email: <https://calendly.com/sarah-chin-coastal-quest/climatebondta-15min?month=2026-04>



# Small Group Discussion, Continued

*Return to your small group and discuss the following questions. Identify a notetaker to take notes on the easel paper, and someone to share out.*



1. What are your current adaptation project priorities, or an example of an adaptation project you are working on?
2. What community-based organizations or community partners do you engage with and what does that partnership look like?
3. Would you be interested/open to using a later RICAPS meeting to invite CBO partners to the conversation?





**What is one  
takeaway or  
reflection from  
today's  
conversation?**



**What are the next steps to continue to prepare this group for a collaborative Prop 4 grant?**

# Jurisdiction Round Robin

...

*Please fill out your responses to the following questions on half sheet hand outs. We will be collecting these.*

1. Does your jurisdiction have interest in RICAPS support expanding to cover climate adaptation? Please explain why or why not.
2. What is your jurisdiction/agency planning for Earth Day? (Either for public or for staff.)



# Group Picture!





Thank you.

Staff Name

Staff Title

Staff Email